

This English course is designed to support Shrewsbury High School's "Mission Statement" and targets the following specific student expectations by providing opportunities for students to:

- Fulfill individual academic potential. (#1)
- Develop and apply critical and creative thinking skills. (#2)
- Develop competency in the use of information and technology. (#5)
- Formulate and express opinions supported by facts and data in effective presentations. (#6)
- Demonstrate effective reading, speaking, writing, and listening skills. (#7)
- Participate in collaborative and cooperative learning. (#8)
- Demonstrate self-discipline and personal responsibility for learning. (#9)

**Title:** English 9H

**Course Description:**

English 9H is a Freshman English course designed for the honors college-bound student. Students will read, discuss, and write about various literary genre, including such works as Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, Dickens' Great Expectations, Hugo's Les Miserables, and Hamilton's Mythology. Independent reading will be taken from a required list (see attached). Students will study the first four chapters in Warriner's English Grammar. Emphasis will be placed on the writing program with lengthier and more in-depth assignments expected from the honor student. In addition, students will learn a minimum of fifteen new vocabulary words per week (quizzes will be cumulative), review the spelling of 300 commonly misspelled words (Warriner's), and understand the meaning of less common words used in the literature selections.

One of the main goals of this course is to improve the students' creative and critical thinking skills. Teaching techniques will be employed which challenge students' imaginations and encourage them to approach topics from new perspectives. Writing and reading will be approached from an interdisciplinary point of view with emphasis on using specific textual support in writing and thinking.

One of the quarters (4th) will be devoted to speech (see attached communication course description).

**Expectations:**

- A. Students will be able to recognize plot, character, theme, setting, and point of view in selected short stories and specified novels.
- B. Students will be able to identify dramatic and lyric poetry. They will be able to note word choice, tone, figurative language, imagery, and structure in poems.
- C. Students will be able to interpret the effect of imagery and to recognize figures of speech, characters, and plot in Romeo and Juliet.
- D. Students will be able to recognize the various gods and goddesses

- of Greek mythology. They will read selections from flower and love myths, the great heroes before the Trojan War, and the Trojan War.
- E. Students will understand English grammar as covered in Part I of Warriner's.
  - F. Students will be introduced to active reading strategies such as notetaking, bookmarking, and annotating text.
  - G. Students will learn how to spell and use vocabulary words from lessons 1 - 20 in 601 Words You Need to Know.
  - H. Students will be able to create multi-paragraph writings, including the five paragraph essay form and answers to open response questions that show mastery of the writing competencies listed on the "Scope and Sequence of Writing Skills" (see attached).
  - I. Students will complete on the word processor a 2500 word biography. This biography will be written about an adult of their choice. It will include the use of research techniques and the interviewing process. References to "historical" events that occurred during the person's lifetime must be included.
  - J. Students will be able to prepare and deliver a speech. (See the attached course description for Freshman Communications Course.)
  - K. Students will master a list of 300 commonly misspelled words. Students will complete eight outside reading books (two per quarter) from the required reading list..

**Units:**

*(Please note that reading, writing, speaking, listening and thinking skills are taught in relation to all units.)*

A. Grammar and Writing (Warriner's Grammar)

Part 1: Chpt. 1: Parts of Speech  
Chapt. 2: The Sentence  
Chpt. 3 of Warriner's: The Phrase  
Chpt. 4 of Warriner's: The Clause

B. Communication Skills (See course description for the Freshman Communication Course.)

C. Literature: Prentice Hall Literature – Gold @2000

Unit 1- Part 1 "In Suspense"

"The Most Dangerous Game"  
"Casey at the Bat"  
from "I Had a Hammer"  
"The Birds"

Unit 2- Part 1 "For the Good of All"

"I Have a Dream"  
"Pride (In the Name of Love)"  
from "Rosa Parks: My Story"  
"There is a Longing"  
" I Hear America Singing"  
"The Golden Kite, the Silver Wind"

Unit 3- Part 2 "Learning About Ourselves and Others"

"The Interlopers"  
"The Rug Merchant"  
"Combing"  
"Women"  
"maggie and milly and molly and may"  
"Astonishment"

Unit 6- Selections from Part 1 "Plot Character and Point of View" and Part 2 "Setting and Theme"

"The Gift of the Magi"  
"The Scarlet Ibis"  
"Blues Ain't no Mockin Bird"  
"The Man to Send Rain Clouds"

Unit 7- Part 1 "Essays and Personal Accounts"

"The Washwoman"  
"A Celebration of Grandfathers"  
"Arthur Ashe Remembered"

Unit 8- Part 1 "Today's Drama"

The Dancers

Part 2 "History and Traditions"  
Romeo and Juliet

D. Vocabulary

- Chapters 1-20 of 601 Words

E. Mythology (Hamilton)

- Part I: "The Gods, the Creation, and the Earliest Heroes"
- Part II: "Stories of Love and Adventure"
- Part III: "The Great Heroes Before the Trojan War"

**Multicultural readings:**

- Cisneros' The House on Mango Street

**Other required novels:**

- Dickens' Great Expectations
- Hugo's Les Miserables
- Golding's Lord of the Flies

**Materials:**

Prentice Hall Literature (Gold) @2000  
Warriner's English Grammar and Composition (Fourth Course)  
601 Words You Need to Know (Lessons 1-20)  
Mythology (Edith Hamilton)

**Assessment:**

- A. Teacher-made and standardized tests and quizzes
- B. Department semester exams /final assessment project
- C. Teacher and student evaluation of compositions, including outside reading reports and periodic analysis of cumulative writing folders
- D. Reading Record Cards
- E. Teacher and student evaluation of several speeches
- F. Small group discussion
- G. Authentic assessment projects and activities
- H. Homework assignments